April 2.

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Newes from the West OF IRELAND:

Relating what hapned to Captain *Weldon* and Captain *Aſton* after their paſſage from *Briſtol* to the Fort of *Duncannon* in the mouth of the River of *Waterford*, with many particular enterpriſes performed againſt the Rebels in thoſe parts, to the terrour of our Enemies, the glory of God, and the honour of all brave Engliſh Commanders.

With a Letter ſent from the Maior of *Waterford* to Captain *Aſton* in excuſe of his rebellious deſignes, with Captain *Aſtons* ſharpe and worthy Reply ſent in a Letter to the ſaid Maior.

Publiſhed by the conſent of a worthy Member of the Houſe of COMMONS.

London, printed for *F.C.* and *W.W.* 1642.

A briefe Relation of all the paſſages that happened unto us, Captaine *Anthony Weldon*, and Captaine *Thomas Aſton*, in purſuance of His Majeſties deſigne for *Ireland*, ſithens our departure from the Citie of *Briſtoll*.

SHrove-monday the 20. of *February* wee departed out of *Briſtoll* with 200. proper men well armed, and colours flying, and ſhipped them aboard, in the good Ship called the Lambe of *Briſtoll*.

Tueſday the 21. we ſet ſayle from *King-roade*, neare *Briſtoll*, for *Ireland*, having with us for our Convoy, the good Ship called the Fellowſhip of *Briſtoll*, a man of warre. Tueſday night, and Wedneſday all day, we kept company together at Sea. Wedneſday night the winde being contrary, ere Thurſday morning our Ship and Convoy were ſeparated.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Thurſday about noone we deſcried land, and in the evening we arrived before the Fort of *Duncannon*, in the mouth of the River of *Waterford*.

Friday and Satterday we landed our men ſafely within the Fort, wherein we found the noble old Lord *Eſmond* Governour thereof, with 100. men reſident for the defence thereof; the enemie laying within Musket ſhot thereof.

The

The Enemies Commanders under their Generall the Lord *Mongarret*, are Colonell *Butler*, Lieutenant Colonell *Maylor*, and Serjeant Major *Butler*.

The enemie before our landing had made a Truce or ceſſation of Armes with his Lordſhip for five dayes, which was expired the Sunday following our arrivall: During the time of the Truce, a Parley was ſought by Serjeant Major *Butler*; the effect whereof was, that the evnemie might be admitted to bring into the Fort as many men of theirs as his Lordſhip had therein, upon pretenſe to ſtrengthen the ſame: If this might bee granted, they would lay downe their armes, but his Lordſhip would not embrace any of their treacherous propoſitions.

At the time of the Parley his Lordſhip demanded reſtitution for the wrongs and injuries done unto His Majeſtie, and His Highneſſe Subjects, the poore Proteſtants in *Ireland*; Anſwer was made by the Enemie, They could doe nothing in that particular without conference with their Generall.

Before their firſt Truce was ended, the Enemie deſired a ſecond for 14. dayes, but his Lordſhip would not condeſcend thereunto.

Munday the laſt of February, Colonell *Butler* ſent a Letter unto his Lordſhip, perporting a further ceſſation of Armes, as alſo a parley with foure of our beſt men of quality, and then with eight men; and by and by a Meſſenger ſent from Colonell *Butler*, to deſire private conference with his Lordſhip in perſon, which his Lordſhip refuſed; for that he would have no conference at all with any one of them, without publique notion to my ſelfe and Captaine *Weldon*.

Wednesday the 2. of March, we sallyed forth upon the enemies quarters with 60. Musketiers, intending to have fired their quarters, and bring away such necessaries for lodging as we could get, for lodging for our Souldiers: Our men came bravely on, and exchanged divers bullets with the enemy; but by extraordinary numbers of men encreasing upon us, (being but an handfull) occasioned by the sudden intelligence sent unto the neighbouring Garrisons, as by burning of Furzes, setting Beacons on fire, &c. we retreated into our Fort without losse of any man, onely one man received a small hurt in his shoulder.

Friday the 4. of March, we sallyed forth againe upon the Enemie, removed their Centinels, forced them to retreat from their quarters, and brought away their Court of Guard, made of Deale boards, which served very well to make our Souldiers Huts, lodging being somewhat scarce within the Fort. This day also wee brought our men safe off, onely one man shot in the face, but not mortall. This day likewise our Convoy, together with a Pinnace, came into the Harbour.

Sunday morning the 6. of March we sallyed forth againe, intending to have some further bandying of bullets with the Enemie; but marching up their quarters, we found they had raised their siedge, and were gone we knew not whether; of which opportunity wee taking advantage, presently fired divers of their houses, neare adjoyning unto the Fort, and brought away divers small stackes of Corne, to our no small comfort, and then retreated (to give God praise) into the Fort, resolving to sally forth againe in the afternoone.

Sunday in the afternoone we sallyed forth againe, and then

then marched forth with ſome 150. men, about a mile and halfe diſtant from the Fort, where we fired diverſe other houſes, there being good ſtore of Corne, Goates, Sheepe, and Swine; ſome Sheepe, Goats, and Swine wee brought away, but could not bring any Corne: Firſt, in regard the day was almoſt ſpent; and ſecondly, for that the Enemie was diſcovered drawing to a place of ambuſh, that was betweene our men and the Fort; but ſome of our men remaining behinde in the Fort, perceiving their drift, prevented their comming: and preſently ſome 50. Musketiers were commanded to march thither, and make good the ſame againſt the Enemie, untill our men ſhould come off, which was done accordingly; the Enemie not daring to approach any further, but were forced to retreat with ſhame.

Sunday night, his Lordſhip, my ſelfe, and Captain *Welden* reſolved together with the Captain of the Man of War, that on Munday morning by the break of day, the Ship together with the Pinnace, ſhould go up the River about two miles diſtant from the Fort, and there lie between a Town called *Paſſage*, and another ſmall Town called *Ballybacke*, oppoſite againſt *Paſſage*, the one having a Fort with four gunnes in it, the other a ſtrong Caſtle, but no Artillery in it.

Munday morning the ſeventh of March, I went up my ſelfe in the Man of War together with the Pinnace, and lay betweene thoſe two Townes, the Fort of *Paſſage* ſhot thrice at us, then our Ship ſhot one ſhot into the Fort, and preſently the Fort hanged forth a flag of Truce; whereupon, and for that there were divers of the poor Engliſh Proteſtants Priſoners within the Town, we made no more ſhots, but wholly in-

tended our battery againſt the Caſtle of *Ballyhacke*, being the onely convenient place of Rendevous and Garriſon for all the rebellious Crue, that beſiege the Fort of *Duncannon*; our Ship lay before it moſt part of the day, ſending many ſhots to the Caſtle, but could make no breach therein, then I commanded ſome 20. Muſqueties to go on ſhore, and ſet fire on one ſide of the Town, which they did landing at one end thereof, where they ſet a fire one houſe, thinking the reſt of the houſes on that row would have taken fire by degrees. All this while the Rebels from the Caſtle played upon our men with their ſmall ſhot, very thicke; our men retreated into the Boates, and came aboard againe all ſafe, onely one man at the firſt landing was ſhot through the ſhoulder.

But finding the fire not to take effect, I commanded the Boates to be manned forth againe, and to land our men on the other ſide of the Towne, and ſet that on fire: Our men being landed, marched up very boldly to the Towne, in deſpight of the Caſtle, (which ſtill played upon our men with their ſmall ſhot) and fired the moſt part of the Town, and came off bravely, onely one other man (one of the Ships company) received a ſhot into his belly, but none of our men mortally wounded.

A true Copie of the Letter which was ſent me from the Maior and Recorder of Waterford, *at the time when I lay before* Ballyhacke.

M. *Aſton*,

I Underſtand, you are come with ſhips to the haven of *Waterford*, the King hath granted the port protection, and juriſdiction of it to our Corporation, and I would be glad you would give us an account, why you come ſo far to the port, and what your intent is, and why you would not acquaint me with your purpoſe before you came, and ſought not my licenſe, I deſire an accompt rather, that I am informed you offer battery, and offence to the Kings ſubjects, I writ an anſwer to my Lord *Eſmende*, what the reaſon is the Engliſh went not down, and infer the effect was their faults, not ours, I would deſire to know by what Commiſſion you come, as well as the reſt,

Waterford, March 7. 1641.

Francis Briver, Major of *Waterford*.
Iohn Leonard, Recorder.

A Copy of my anſwer to the Maior and Recorders Letter.

M. Maior, & M. Recorder,

I have received your Letter dated the 7. of March inſtant, wherein you deſire an accompt from me, why we come ſo far to the port, and what our intent is, and why you ſhould not be acquainted with our purpoſe, before

before our comming, and wherefore your Licence had not been firſt ſought, and further you deſire an accompt the rather for that you are informed, Battery and offence are offered to the Kings ſubjects, and for countenancing of theſe your peremptory demands, you infer His Majeſties grant of the protection and juriſdiction of the port unto your Corporation, in all which particulars I ſhall render an accompt, not as you deſire, but deſerve: firſt, admit you had his Majeſties grant as aforeſaid, I do aver the ſame to be (by your revolt) annihilated and made void, and whereas you ſay we offer Battery and offence againſt his Majeſties ſubjects, I utterly deny that honourable ſtile to be appropriated unto any one of them, who have in purſuance of the breach of their fidelity and loyalty, to his Majeſty and the Crown of *England*, moſt inſolently and rebelliouſly taken up armes, and in defiance of his Majeſty and the Crown of *England*, advanced themſelves againſt his Majeſties Fort of *Duncannon*, and againſt my Lord *Eſmond*, his Majeſties true and loyall ſubject, Governour thereof; and whether they can juſtly or at all deſerve the denomination of his Majeſties ſubjects, when as they have ſo rebelliouſly demeaned themſelves as aforeſaid, I refer my ſelfe to his Majeſties Proclamation, which I have ſent you herein incloſed, the like whereof hath been delivered unto Colonell *Butler*, the tenour whereof, I do intend, (by the grace of God) fully to obſerve, and proſecute with effect, which you may aſſure your ſelfe of, by the example of *Ballyhacke*, this is the accompt you may expect from

Your loving Friend if his Majeſties Subject you ſhall really demonſtrate your ſelfe to be

Thomas Aſton.

Duncannon Fort, March 8.

1641.